

NOV 15 2006



**HAMRE, SCHUMANN,  
MUELLER & LARSON, P.C.**

AN INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FIRM

FAX TRANSMISSION November 14, 2006

TO: Mail Stop: AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Michael D. Schumann

OUR REF: 12364.1001USWO

TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

Total pages, including cover letter: 63


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If all pages are NOT received, please call us at 612.455.3800 or fax us at 612.455.3801.

Title of Document: **Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 4 references, copy of  
International Search Report**

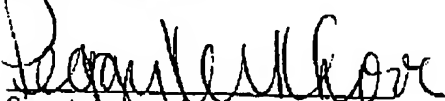
Applicant: NEAL, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/568,172  
App. Filed: February 10, 2006  
Group Art No.: Unknown  
Confirmation No.: 5516

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By:   
Name: Michael D. Schumann  
Reg. No.: 40,443

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Peggy J. Kerkhove

  
Signature

November 15, 2006  
Date

225 SOUTH SIXTH STREET · SUITE 2650 · MINNEAPOLIS · MN 55402  
TEL 612.455.3800 · FAX 612.455.3801  
WWW.HSML.COM · MAIL@HSML.COM

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NEAL, et al. Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: 10/568,172 Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: February 10, 2006 Docket: 12364.1001USWO  
Title: PICTURE FRAME WITH ILLUMINATION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 15, 2006.  
By: *Peggy Kerkhove*  
Name: Peggy Kerkhove

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. The art was recently cited in an International Search Report mailed October 12, 2004. A copy of the search report is enclosed. Copies of any foreign patent documents or "Other Documents" are enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §(a)(3)):

Applicant hereby brings attention to the Examiner that the references listed were cited in an International Search Report dated October 12, 2006. A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed. Since the International Search Report is in English, no English translation of the listed foreign references are required, pursuant to MPEP §609(A)3.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- ☒ (1) within three (3) months of the Filing Date, before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114; or
- ☐ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, and
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, OR

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- ☐ the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein, or **NOV 15 2006**
- ☐ (3) after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but on or before the payment of the Issue Fee, AND
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, AND
- ☐ the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein.

### STATEMENT

As required under §1.97(e), Applicants hereby state either that:

- ☐ 1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ☐ 2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ If this box is checked, Applicant provides the following:

### Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. applications. A copy of each U.S. patent application publication (if published) or application (if not published) is enclosed.

Application No.

Filing Date

Group

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

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Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

**FEE AUTHORIZATION**

Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 50-3478. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &  
LARSON, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2902-0902  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902  
(612) 455-3800

Dated: November 15, 2006

By: 

Michael D. Schumann

Reg. No. 30,422

MDS/pjk



**Date Mailed: November 14, 2006**

NOV 15 2006  
St. Paul, MN

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number:</b> 12364.1001USWO	<b>Application Number:</b> 10/568,172
	<b>Applicant:</b> Neal, et al.	
	<b>Filing Date:</b> February 10, 2006	<b>Group Art Unit:</b> Unknown

[illegible]

**52835**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 608; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant	

\*Substitute Disclosure Statement Form (PTO-1449)

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE